

IOWA VETERANS HOME

1301 Summit Street
Marshalltown, Iowa 50158-5485
Ph: (641) 752-1501
Fax: (641) 753-4278



Chester J. Culver, Governor
Patty Judge, Lt. Governor
State of Iowa
Daniel R. Steen, Commandant

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For immediate release

For more information, contact Lisa Purvis, 641-753-4397

Rep. Tymeson is Keynote Speaker at Iowa Veterans Home Memorial Day Program



The Iowa Veterans Home will honor veterans at its annual Memorial Day Program on Monday, May 26th at 10:30 a.m. in the Malloy LRC. The IVH Choir will provide special music and IVH Chaplain Angela Doty will give the invocation and benediction. Boy Scouts of America Troop 317 will participate in the program by advancing the colors and IVH resident Lucian "Gene" Peterson will lay a wreath at the graveside.

According to www.usmemorialday.org, "Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, and was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. By 1890 the holiday was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war). It is now celebrated in almost every State on the last Monday in May (passed by Congress with the National Holiday Act of 1971.)"

Retired General and State Representative Jodi Tymeson will give the keynote address. Tymeson is a licensed teacher and retired Army National Guard Brigadier General. She retired in October 2007 after 33 years of military service. Born in Boone County and raised on a Century Farm near Ogden, Jodi and her husband, John, now reside in Madison County near Winterset. John is retired after serving in the military for 34 years. They have two grown daughters currently working in Georgia. Jodi graduated from Ogden High School in 1973. She earned a B.A. degree in Elementary Education from the University of Northern Iowa and a Masters degree in Public Administration from Drake University. Jodi is a graduate of the U.S. Army War College as a National Security Fellow at Harvard University's JFK School of Government. Jodi enlisted in the Iowa Army National Guard in 1974 and spent eight years as an enlisted soldier. She was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1982. Jodi served in many positions to include platoon leader, company commander, battalion commander, troop command commander, and assistant adjutant general. Jodi was first elected to the Iowa House of Representatives in 2000. She chaired the House Education Committee for four years. She currently serves as Ranking Member, House Veterans Affairs Committee and as a member of the Ethics, Education, Labor, and Government Oversight Committees.

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